

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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43

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 OFA-01 COME-00 L-03 OES-03 EB-07 TRSE-00

OMB-01 INT-05 DLOS-04 DOTE-00 JUSE-00 SCS-03 SCA-01

CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00 SS-15 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 USIE-00 ARAE-00 INRE-00 /068 W

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FM AMEMBASSY NASSAU

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7010

INFO COMDT COGARD WASHDC IMMEDIATE

COGDSEVEN MIAMI IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L NASSAU 1231

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EFIS BF

SUBJ: SPINY LOBSTER: CONVERSATION WITH PRIME MINISTER

REF: STATE 178301

1. PRIME MINISTER PINDLING CAME OFF THE FLOOR OF PARLIAMENT WEDNESDAY EVENING TO RETURN MY CALL. I CONVEYED TO THE PM THE VERBAL ASSURANCE SET FORTH IN REFTEL. PM EXPRESSED APPRECIATION AND IN RESPONSE TO MY COMMENT AS TO THE NECESSITY FOR THIS ASSURANCE NOT TO BE MADE PUBLIC AT THIS TIME SAID HE UNDERSTOOD.

2. I ALSO TOOK THE OCCASION TO RENEW THE APPEAL WITH REGARD TO IMPORTANCE OF THE MORATORIUM. IN THIS CONNECTION, I NOTED TO PM THE ESSENCE OF MY DISCUSSION WITH ADDERLEY EARLIER IN THE DAY SAYING THAT WHILE ADDERLEY'S INITIAL REACTION WAS TO FEEL THAT OUR NOTE WAS RESPONSIVE TO THE ISSUES PREVIOUSLY RAISED WITH US THE MINEXTAFF HAD ADVANCED THE NOTION THAT WE SET FORTH IN BRIEF THE MAJOR ELEMENTS OF WHAT WE INTENDED TO PROPOSE IN THE NEGOTIATIONS IN ORDER TO EXPEDITE GCOB RESPONSIVENESS ONCE THE DEFINITIVE NEGOTIATIONS ACTUALLY BEGAN.

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I HAD ALREADY WIRED WASHINGTON PROPOSING THAT WE ATTEMPT TO

MEET THIS REQUEST. I SAID THAT WHILE I COULD SEE MERIT FROM GCOB POINT OF VIEW, MY CONCERN WAS THAT FOR US TO GET A RAPID RESPONSE I THOUGHT WE WOULD HAVE TO RESPOND AT A RELATIVELY HIGH LEVEL OF GENERALITY WHICH MIGHT OR MIGHT NOT MEET GCOB NEEDS. CONVERSELY, IF WE WERE TO GET MUCH INTO SPECIFICS THIS WOULD REQUIRE A LONGER PREPARATION AND CLEARANCE PROCESS IN WASHINGTON. I NOTED THAT THE LATTER WOULD BE MUCH LESS OF A PROBLEM IF WE HAD A MORATORIUM. IF BOTH GOVERNMENTS COULD ANNOUNCE THAT THEY HAD REACHED AN INTERIM AGREEMENT WITH THE EXPECTATION THAT A DETAILED NEGOTIATION WOULD TAKE PLACE IN THE NEAR FUTURE, THIS WOULD REMOVE THE DANGER OF AN UNTOWARD EVENT WHICH COULD ONLY COMPLICATE MATTERS, PERMITTING US AS MUCH TIME AS REQUIRED FOR PRELIMINARY EXPLORATIONS.

3. PM, WHO WAS SPEAKING FROM A PHONE APPARENTLY JUST OFF THE FLOOR SINCE I COULD HEAR A PARLIAMENTARY DEBATE IN THE BACK-GROUND, EXPRESSED UNDERSTANDING OF POINTS I HAD MADE. HE SAID THAT HE WOULD BE ON THE FLOOR FOR THE REMAINDER OF DAY AND MOST OF TOMORROW (THE GOVERNMENT HAS JUST PRESENTED ITS LONG-AWAITED COMPREHENSIVE ECONOMIC PACKAGE) BUT THAT HE WOULD TRY TO SEE ADDERLEY BY LUNCH ON THURSDAY SO THAT THEY COULD DISCUSS OUR NOTE FURTHER. THAT IS WHERE THE MATTER RESTS.
WEISS

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